

Assessment of Challenges and Opportunity of Basketball Developments in Some Selected Regions in Ethiopia

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Abstract

The intent of this study is to assess the challenges and Opportunity of Basketball development of in Some Selected Regions Ethiopia. The research made Addis Ababa, Oromia, Gambella and South Nation Nationality and People Regional States as the sites of this study. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches particularly a descriptive survey were employed as they were found to be appropriate for answering the basic research questions. Instrument of data collection included questionnaire, interview and document analysis. Pertaining to the sample population for the study, Basketball Players, Coaches, Referees, Sport Science Scholars and Sport Administrators ($N=200$) were involved. The result indicates that there are huge gap as regards to the development of basketball. According to the finding of the study, there are lack of trained human power, lack of sound policies and strategies of Basketball development. The result also revealed a shortage of budget, facilities, equipments and other necessary materials at the sample of Regional States. shortage of basketball competitions at various sex and age categories, Problems of communication and continuous material, logistic and moral support from Sport Commission and National Federation were identified be side. Furthermore the study revealed the talent identification and development were very weak and number of basketball clubs only limited to the capital of the country hence Addis Ababa City Administration is the only regions which have basketball clubs. Finally the finding of the study shows that these four Regions possess huge basketball talent and growth potentials. To this end National and Regional Sport commissions, Ethiopian Basketball Federation and other concerned sport authorities have to make all necessary provision urgently to develop and expand basketball sport, in order to produce talented and outstanding athletes both at regional and national level.

Keywords: Basketball, Development, Challenges and Opportunity

Introduction

Now a day's sport has become a popular activity among the youngsters and adults in Ethiopia. Above all interest Basketball has been grown in the country over the years. Basketball is a game which played by two teams with five players each (Federation of International Basketball Association 2010). Unlike baseball, football, soccer, ice hockey and all the other major team sports, basketball cannot claim a history of evolutionary development that began back in ancient or medieval times. Basketball was literally created overnight, the result of an assignment posed by a physical education teacher in December 1891 at a Young Men's Christen Association (YMCA) training cover in spring field, Massachusetts. A Canadian student, James Naismith (1861-1939), rose to challenge of constructing an active indoor winter game that would prove attractive to young men. He typed up a rudimentary set of rules, has a janitor nail up peach baskets along the railing at each end of the spring field gym, and invited his colleagues to toss soccer ball into one of the two baskets. Basketball also went visible international in 1930s. At the hands of YMCA Enthusiasts, the game had been introduced all over the world shortly after its creation. By 1930, fifty nations had adopted the sport. Despite the economic hard ships, representatives from Asia and Africa as well as Europe convened in 1932 to form the International Federation of Amateur Basketball (FIBA). Chinese and Japanese students who had learned the game from YMCA missionaries before World War I introduced basketball at the University of Berlin in the mid-1930s. Nazi propagandists over looked the game's YMCA origins and gave it their stamp of approval on the grounds that basketball required not only speed and stamina but also an aggressive spirit that allegedly characterized the true Germany.

In Ethiopian also Basketball is one of the popular sports that played at various age, sex and categories level. This popular sport has a lot of social, economical and psychological significance in producing physically and mentally developed generation.

Basketball can contribute to the development of personal and social values that are very important in the educational process of the child and youngsters. This includes commitment, perseverance, and personal responsibilities within the group, team work, respecting the rules, respecting others, and learning to compete (Maurizo, 2001).

This, rapidly increasing popularity of basketball has created a high demand for further expansion and development. However in recent year unlike other sports such as athletics and football basketballs weaken from time to time. Different scholars mention various factors that can hinder the development of sports According to Sahile (2001), availability of sport facilities and equipments, sport talent identification and developments has a tremendous effect on the development and popularity of a given sport. However there is no study found about

assessment challenge of basketball Development in Ethiopia.

Therefore, this study will benefits both regions states and national governments who can create or revise sport polices based upon the results .National and regional sports federations, sports clubs, sport associations, government and non government sports organization, will also benefits from the finding of the study.

Due to these above reasons, the researcher believed that the proposed study which addresses the challenges and opportunity of basketball development in some selected regions in Ethiopia is timely and relevant.

Research Questions

1. What are the major problems and challenges that hinder the development of basketball in Ethiopia?
2. Are there necessary and appropriate equipments, facilities and resources in sufficient amount?
3. Are there appropriate support and communication between sport administrators and stakeholders?
4. What are the potential developments of basketball in the country?

Methods and Materials

Research Design

The researcher employed both qualitative and quantitative approaches particularly to a descriptive survey as his method of study because it provided the research with detailed description of the existing conditions and about the problem under investigation.

Population and Sampling Strategy

The research population included a range of respondents, namely Basketball players, coaches, Referees, sports science scholars and sport administrator Using systematic random method with references of their participation of All Ethiopians Games total sample of the study participants is two hundred (N=200)from all study area

Instruments of data collection

There is a deep conviction that there is merit in using more than one instrument as they supplement each other to generate credible data. Accordingly, the researcher employed questionnaires, interview and document analysis as tools of requisite information procurement. Questionnaires' with closed-ended and open-ended items were developed for basketball players. To supplement information procured through questionnaires, the researcher adopted a semi-structured interview for coaches .Print materials like magazines and brochures were collected to supplement to main data in document analysis.

Methods of Data Analysis

As far as data analysis is concerned, both qualitative and quantitative approaches were employed. Qualitative method was used to provide detailed description of the data to help the researcher explore and discover inherent facts, while quantitative approach was meant for quantifying date generated in terms of frequencies and percentages using tables.

Results

According to the response sampled players (75%) of player respondents respond that both regions sport commission and national basketball federation do not provide appropriate support for the player and coach. (25%) of the respondents said that to some extent they received some support from sport commission.

The data obtained from coaches also strengthen the player's response; since almost all of basketball coaches said that sport commission do not provide appropriate support such material, finial educational sport, concerning the course that important for coaches to upgrade their knowledge of the sport.

From the sampled players 58% of the player respondents responded that the support and motivation given to them by their coach is good 29% of the respondents very good, 13% of the respondents excellent and 2% of the player respondents said poor respectively.

From the sampled players explicitly elucidates that the absolute majority (100%) of the respondents respond that there is no good communication and interaction between concerned sport administrators and members of the team. The response obtained from an interview conducted with coach interviewees are in agreement with this fact. According to this coaches said that the administrator's interaction is limited only during competition at region and national level.

Discussion

The current contribution of youth training centers (project) for growth and development of basketball in the regions is very low. Since, these projects centers are limited to few areas and their productivity in producing outstanding athletes at regional and national level

In addition to this number of basketball competitions is only limited to regions and national championship, hence there is no other competition at various, sex, and age categories level. Basketball Clubs only found in Capital of the country. This also affects the acquisitions of basketball talents at different residence and schools areas.

Furthermore the talent identification and development is very weak hence training system is not up to date and scientific. Therefore these can hinder the growth and performance athletes' development in both regions and national level.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Conclusions

Based on the finding of this study, the following conclusion can be draw

- The current contribution of youth training centers (project) for growth and development of basketball in all regions is very low. Since, these projects are not in good conditions.
- The number of basketball competitions is only limited to regions and national champion chip all games hence there is no other competition at various, sex, and age categories level.
- The talent identification and development methods very weak and training system is not up to date and scientific

Recommendations

Based on the finding and conclusion of this study the following recommendations are given:

In order to develop and expand basketball throughout the region the numbers of qualified coaches are very crucial. Therefore, Region and National Sport commission should work jointly in training, and producing outstanding coaches at various categories levels.

Hence school is the best source for number of talented and outstanding athletes, it's important to built and fulfill infrastructures such as playing courts, gym, and other necessary facilities and equipments. It is very important for sport commission in working with Regional Education Bureau and Ministry of Education in strength the sport competition and other activities throughout the schools of the regions.

It's better to strengthen the contribution of youth training centers (projects) for growth and development of basketball in the region by providing all necessary equipment, facilities and logistic support. In additional to this, the concerned body should open new youth training centers at different parts of the regions.

Acknowledgement

I am highly grateful to all players, coaches and sport scholars and percipients to provide the necessary information without which the study could have not been completed.

My deepest gratitude goes to Mr Asenke Mulleta Commissioner, of Addis Ababa City Administration Sport Commission for his constant support of logistic, materials, facilitation for data collection and encouragement from the beginning to the end.

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